

Remarks

Claims 18-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 18-30, 32-34 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Walter et al. (Patent Publication No. US 2002/0172000), hereafter "Walter." Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Walter. Claims 35-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Walter and Schindel (US Patent No. 7,275,298). The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 are defective because Walter and Schindel, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose each and every feature set forth in the claims.

The present invention is concerned with a method for the manufacture of an angular transducer unit for an angular switching device.

The inventors realized that the assembly of the transducer element and the angular bush can be achieved in a simple and precise manner by using a suitably formed tool, which can also be referred to as a stop fitting or a form. In accordance with the present invention, the transducer element is brought into aligned engagement with a transducer receptacle which is formed in the tool. Further, the inventors discovered that a very exact relative orientation of the angled bush and the transducer element can be achieved in a simple manner when the angled bush itself is brought into an aligned engagement with the tool. To this end, the tool has a suitably formed bush receptacle.

According to the present invention, the transducer receptacle is formed at least

partially by a transducer centering piece which is inserted into a tool body of the tool (independent claim 18) and/or the bush receptacle is formed at least partially by a bush centering device which is also positioned in the tool body (independent claim 42).

Walter (US 2002/0172000), which discloses a sensor and a method for its manufacture, differs fundamentally from the claimed invention.

Contrary to independent claim 18 (see also independent claim 42) Walter fails to disclose, *inter alia*, "inserting and fixing a transducer element in an angled bush, **wherein the angled bush comprises a tubular component having an axial direction and an opening opening transversely to the axial direction for receiving the transducer element**" (emphasis added). Rather, as is clearly depicted in FIG. 3 of Walter, the sensor (Hall) element 7 of the sensor 1 is disposed in an opening that opens **along** an axial direction of the cylindrical cup 4 (i.e., the opening is directed along the axis of the cylindrical cup 4).

Schindel fails to remedy the glaring deficiencies of Walter.

Accordingly, since Walter and Schindel, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose each and every feature set forth in independent claims 18 and 42, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a).

With respect to the dependent claims, Applicant hereby incorporates the arguments presented above with respect to the independent claims from which the claims depend. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable based on the above arguments, as well as for their own additional features.

Applicant submits that each of the pending claims is patentable for one or more additional unique features. To this extent, Applicant does not acquiesce to the

Examiner's interpretation of the claimed subject matter or the references used in rejecting the claimed subject matter. Additionally, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's analysis, combinations, and modifications of the various references or the motives cited for such combinations and modifications. These features and the appropriateness of the Examiner's combinations and modifications have not been separately addressed herein for brevity. However, Applicant reserves the right to present such arguments in a later response should one be necessary.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/ John A. Merecki /

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